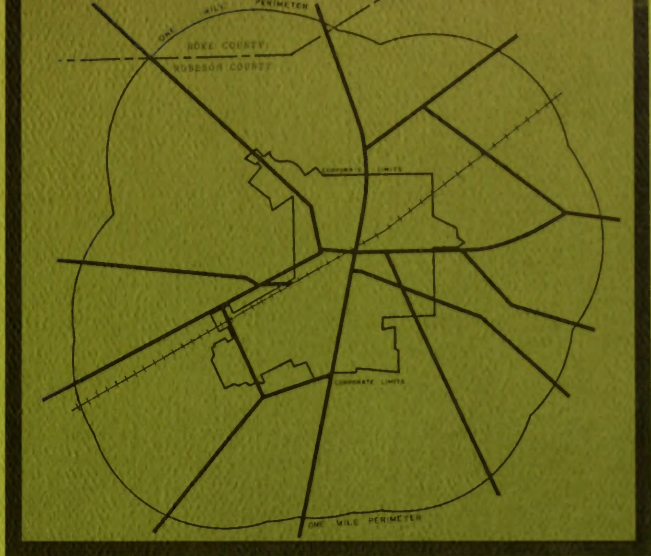


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COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN

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PREPARED FOR

The Town of Red Springs, North Carolina
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T. E. McPhail, Town Manager

TOWN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Ben Campen, Jr.
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FOREWORD



The Community Facilities Plan is one of a series of studies undertaken by the Town of Red Springs to aid in the maintenance of a desirable community and to guide its future growth and development. Other studies are: Population and Economy, Land Use Analysis, Land Development Plan, and the Public Improvements Program. Each of these is a useful tool to aid town officials, businessmen, and residents in making decisions concerning the town's development and their own future.

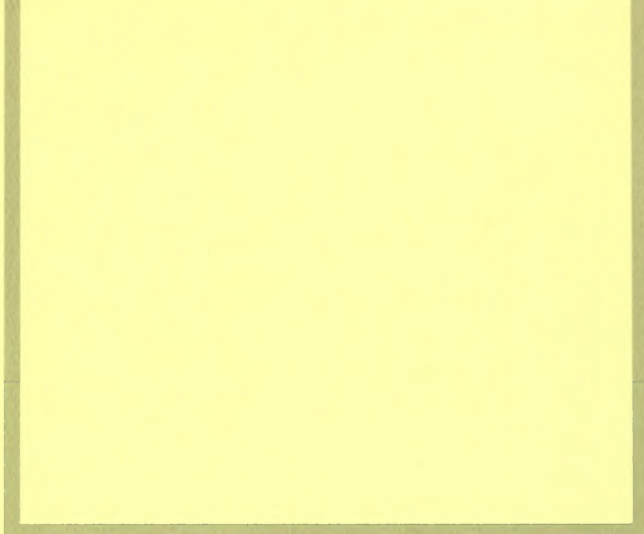
The Community Facilities Plan is concerned primarily with services offered by the Town of Red Springs. Some services offered by private and semi-public organizations as well as other governmental agencies are also included.

The first step in developing the plan is the review of the existing situation. The existing situation is then compared to national, state or local standards for the services. Such standards are explicit statements of national, state, and local policy. However, current levels of service may be considered as the implicit statements of present or past operating policies. Standards as well as operating policies often need revision. An evaluation of current conditions gives an indication of current deficiencies. Forecasts and projections are necessary to estimate future needs and then plan for their provision. Recommendations are made to correct current deficiencies and meet future demands. These recommendations are included for both operating procedures and capital improvements.


The Public Improvements Program will further identify all public capital improvements that are required during the planning period to implement the recommendations of the Comprehensive Development Plan of which this study is a part. In the Public Improvements Program a recommended order of priority will be set forth along with justification behind the priorities established. The resultant Public Improvements Program will be used as a guide in the subsequent preparation of a Capital Improvements Budget for the town.

The following is a partial list of individuals who have aided in the preparation of this study:

Mayor	E. H. Alexander
Town Commissioners	Earle A. Watson
	Ben Campen, Jr.
	John P. Robertson, Jr.
	Duncan McGoogan
	Rex Bullock
	Bill Powell
Town Manager	Thomas E. McPhail
Assistant Town Clerk	Melba M. Melcher
Chief of Police	Luther W. Haggins
Fire Chief	Claude Snow
Rescue Squad Chief	John Schell
Superintendent of Public Works	Cleveland Parker
Superintendent of Power and Light Department	Craven Pridgen
Superintendent of Red Springs Schools	I. J. Wicker
Recreation Director	I. J. Wicker
Baseball for Boys, Inc.	Tom Cope
Consulting Engineers	Moore, Gardner, and Associates
	Asheboro, North Carolina
	L. E. Wooten and Co.
	Raleigh, North Carolina



INTRODUCTION



In the early days of planning, planners were concerned mainly with the physical design of cities. Now, through experience, planners and town officials alike have come to realize that community services are essential to the life of an urban area and the general effectiveness of the planning program for that area. Various services and facilities are both the cause and result of growth. When an area develops, it needs urban services and they must be provided either before or soon after development takes place. In many cases areas tend to develop sooner because they are provided with paved streets and sidewalks, water and sewers, while other areas that do not have these advantages are bypassed. Thus, the provision of certain community services can be a useful tool in guiding growth and development in the directions determined as most favorable in the Land Development Plan. The present availability of services or the relative ease of supplying them to an area are major factors considered in forming the Land Development Plan. Areas which already have sewer and water lines with excess capacity can be earmarked for early development. Other areas which would require expensive installation of utilities may be reserved for development at a much later date. Some areas without utilities may be appropriate for industrial development or recreation.

A Community Facilities Plan is also essential for the efficient provision of an adequate level of services in the future. Most services require facilities which have relatively long lives, so a firm idea of future needs is necessary to be able to plan current projects to meet both long range and short range needs. Various distribution systems should be installed with a capacity to meet all foreseeable needs. Installation costs are often the major item and for a small additional expense, the lines or mains could serve for 20 or more years instead of only 5 years. In other cases, projections may indicate that development will never require additional capacity or that changes will occur which will actually reduce demands.

Land and rights-of-ways should be acquired or reserved as soon as possible for future needs. As development takes place, it becomes increasingly difficult or even impossible to find suitable sites for schools, parks and other public uses. When space is available, the increased cost of the land after development is sometimes prohibitive.

More and better public services are demanded with increasing urban development. The nature of services also change over time. Hitching posts are no longer necessary; many municipalities are now involved in airports and community television aeriels. The quality of many services has changed with technology and the values of society. Some changes in capacity or quantity are due to increased consumer population but individual demands have also increased in many cases.

Public interest in services is generally increasing. Either direct government programs or cooperative arrangements controlled by government regulations are meeting more and more needs of modern society. Direct government action is the result of default in the case of many utilities which were taken over by municipal governments during the depression. Others have always required direct government action to protect the public interest. Every level of government is involved in some service to its constituents, with some agencies organized to serve a single purpose in a special district under restricted powers and responsibilities with respect to the given service. This study is concerned primarily with the municipal services of Red Springs and those other services which have major facilities in Red Springs or which serve Red Springs exclusively.

There are many other county-wide services available to Red Springs residents. These are administered at the county level and for the most part are located in the county seat. This is also true of state and federal government services. These are important to the residents of every community, but since they are not the responsibility

of the local municipal government, the local governing bodies are not directly concerned with them. In many cases local communities are involved or concerned with facilities for the county, state, or federal agencies. In such a case the municipal government's involvement is similar to that with any private, independent organization, and the town is concerned only with the adequate provision of space in the proper location.

A planning study of this type can adequately deal with the relatively small predictable change in the community. However, development may be slow and steady or it may speed up or stop completely due to factors which are not currently apparent. Like any small town, Red Springs has a small base. A single factory or other institution moving into or out of the area would result in major changes in utility requirements. These changes would be due both to the direct requirements of the industry and the indirect requirements of the employees and their families. Water, sewer and electrical utilities may allow for 20 to 50 percent growth or expansion. This may be a large proportion of the existing demand to allow for expansion but the absolute amount allowed for expansion is still small and might not accommodate the demands of even a small factory. Any large sudden growth or change in demand could seriously overload existing facilities. Factors determining major changes are such that it is difficult or impossible to predict their occurrence. When major development is imminent, a certain amount of functional and administrative flexibility will be necessary to handle the potential problem in a satisfactory manner and take advantage of the economic growth.

Town officials should be aware of the total effect that the influx of any new major users might have on the town facilities and finances. Special approaches may be necessary to finance expensive new facilities or to expand existing facilities to meet the requirements of the new development. Newly developed areas generally

require huge capital outlays for sewers, streets, water lines and other public services. Their effect on the town can be reduced through subdivision regulation requiring the installation of necessary improvements by developers. Proper land use planning and controls can also guide development in the community in order to most effectively use the existing facilities.

Urban areas generally require higher levels of community or public services than do rural areas. In rural areas, water, sewer, and rubbish services may be taken care of individually while police protection and public recreation may not be necessary to the same degree as in urban areas. Concentrated development generally requires higher levels of services and at the same time makes their provision by local governments or some other cooperative arrangement feasible. Urban services vary from community to community. Even though some are considered essential to the health and safety of a community, differences are apparent in the actual levels of services provided. To a great degree essential services are merely those which are more desirable and have been accepted for relatively long periods of time. The voters and their elected representatives usually determine which services are essential and what levels of service the community should have. Utility networks and central facilities may make urban living more expensive. Yet these are the services that attract new residents, industries and business and hold those already in the community. Community services cannot be precisely defined for the community itself must decide how much they are willing to pay for.

Municipal financial policy is not the primary concern of this study. Policies are determined by the governing body of the town or by the public through elections. This study presents to officials and the residents local, state, and national standards for various community services. It is the responsibility of officials to set service fees and tax rates at levels which will make the provision

of recommended levels possible. In Red Springs many services are supported in part or wholly through the utility fund. In many cases this is justifiable. However, where direct tax support is needed for approved services, special tax levies should not be avoided in order to maintain an artificially low tax rate. Neither should utility service levels be jeopardized in order to support other services while maintaining an abnormally low utility rate.

Annexation policies are also related to planning for community facilities. Annexation laws require the provision of municipal services in newly annexed areas at the existing or equal level of the municipality. The costs of providing municipal services could be considerably greater than the possible tax revenues in annexed areas which do not have well paved streets and water and sewer facilities. Policies on extension of utilities and subdivision regulations will greatly affect costs of servicing newly annexed areas.

Scheduling of annexation is important with respect to funds available from state and federal agencies. Allocation of funds to local governments is often based on the population at the time of the most recent official census. Although most of Midstate Mill was annexed in 1964, no additional funds were allocated to the Town of Red Springs since there has been no official census since 1960. Thus, funds for certain services have been lost for a period of six years from 1964 to the next decennial census in 1970.

Policies concerning the extension of services beyond the corporate limits and service to rural areas should be carefully considered. Agreements to serve areas which are not subject to municipal taxes may prove costly to the residents of Red Springs. Such agreements may result in the town subsidizing residents and industries outside the town (depending on service charges). Elimination of services beyond the corporate limits or differential service charges might encourage the annexation of

some areas which now find it more profitable to remain outside of the corporate limits.

Local governments rarely depend entirely on local funds for their operation. Many local programs are supported by state and federal funds. This and other planning studies for Red Springs are partially paid for by funds from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The state provides continuing support for street maintenance through Powell Bill funds. There is an increasing number of federal programs whereby localities may receive partial grants or loans for planning, land acquisition, capital improvements, and in some cases, operating costs for various services. Red Springs' officials should investigate the possibilities of these programs, especially when relatively large capital improvements are involved. Sewage treatment is one prime example of the possible utilization of federal assistance. There are other programs which might be utilized for the acquisition of recreation areas. These programs are just one more resource for the betterment of the local community.

The 1966 population of Red Springs is estimated to have been 4,030.* This indicates a major increase since 1960 when the population was 2,767. But most of this increase was due to the annexation of two developed areas. An area south of Eighth Street was annexed in 1961 and a large portion of the Midstate Mill community, now Westside Heights, was annexed in 1964.

The population of Red Springs is not expected to increase greatly in the next twenty years. The 1970 population is estimated to be 4,250 and the 1980 population is expected to reach 4,500. Annexation of developed areas adjacent to the current corporate limits will probably add more to the town's population than would

* Population and Economy, Red Springs, North Carolina, Division of Community Planning, May, 1967.

the projected changes within the corporate limits. In spite of the major annexations in 1961 and 1964 there are still areas which may be annexed before the 1970 census. An older residential area west of the town along West Third and Fourth Avenues should be annexed and provided with urban services. A newer residential area northeast of town, Pecan Orchard, could also be annexed when sewer service is made available to this area. There has been some residential development along Old Maxton Highway but this area probably will not be developed to an extent requiring urban services for many years. Commercial and residential development is taking place southeast of the town and this area may require urban services and annexation sometime during the planning period.

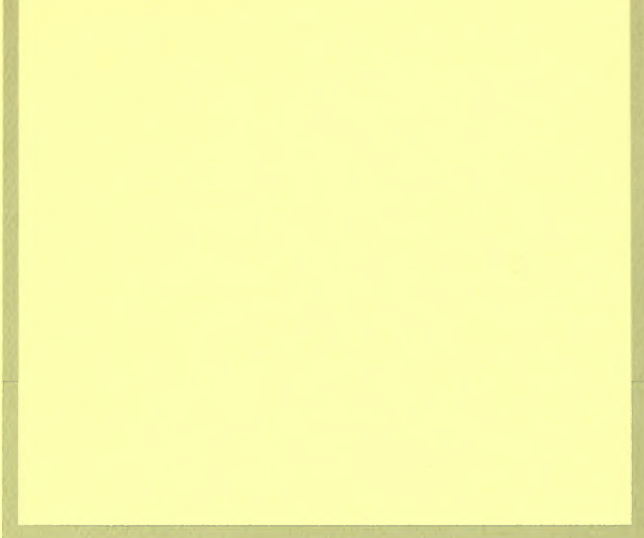
Residential development is occurring in the northwestern section of Red Springs along West Second Street, in the Pecan Orchard area, and to the southeast of Red Springs. New commercial development is taking place southeast of Red Springs along N. C. Highway 211. Industrial development is expected to take place in the industrial park north of Red Springs and possibly in the area between Westside Heights and the Peterson area.

EXISTING COMMUNITY
FACILITIES, DEVELOPED
AREAS, AND GROWTH
AREAS


- ① TOWN HALL
- ② POST OFFICE
- ③ LIBRARY
- ④ ARMORY
- ⑤ PUBLIC WORKS YARD &
TOWN WATER TREATMENT
PLANT
- ⑥ MILL WATER TREATMENT
PLANT
- ⑦ SEWAGE TREATMENT
PLANT
- ⑧ SANITARY LAND FILL
- ⑨ SEWAGE LAGOON
- † CEMETERY
- ▲ SCHOOLS AND PARKS
- ✈ AIRPORT
- ▨ INDUSTRIAL PARK
- DEVELOPED AREAS
- ▨ GROWTH AREAS

RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA





**ADMINISTRATION AND
SPECIAL FACILITIES**



TOWN HALL

In smaller communities the town hall is generally regarded as the center for all local government activity. Here the general public may contact the appropriate public official at any time. The town hall should be easily accessible to the public with adequate parking for employees and the public. It is generally recommended that town halls be located in or near the business district of the town. The business district is a natural center of activity and is frequently visited by most residents of the community. A central location is also essential for police and fire protection headquarters.

The Red Springs Town Hall is located on South Main Street at the edge of the business district. The town offices, police department, fire department, jail, and district court are housed in different sections of the building which have been built or acquired and remodelled over the years.

Off-street parking facilities include a paved parking area at the rear with nine spaces and two spaces used by the police in front of the police department. Street parking is usually available in front of the offices and there is a parking area in the rear leased by local merchants and made available for public parking. This parking area has a capacity of 58 cars and may be used when visiting the town offices.

Town Offices

The town offices include a reception area and desk for the payment of utility bills, an office for the town manager, a billing and bookkeeping room, a

vault and areas for storage. The building is in fair condition and the spaces and arrangement are adequate for current operations and personnel. Additional space could be used for engineering material and the storage of records. Police headquarters and the jail facilities are discussed in the section concerning police protection. The fire station is covered in the section on fire protection.

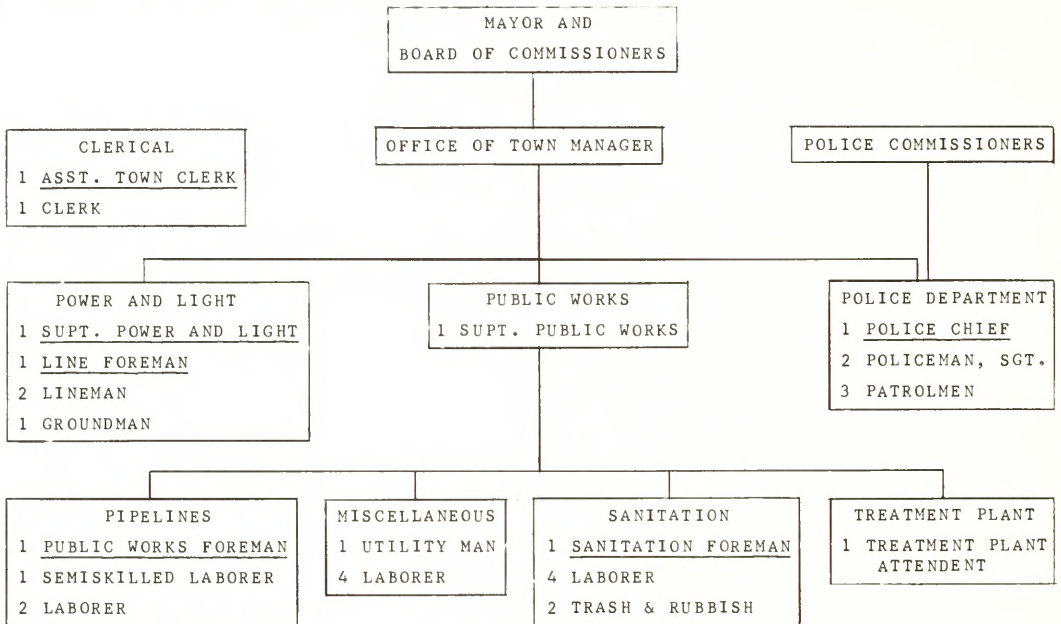
The District Court is housed in a section newly constructed for the court in 1966. These new facilities include the court room, judges chambers, and a jury room.

Space formerly occupied by the Recorder's court is now available for conversion to other uses. The existing jail could also be removed. These spaces could be remodeled, and with proper planning could provide the space for additional facilities needed for the town offices, police department and fire station.

A small multi-purpose room should be available for staff meetings of the departments and other small meetings of town officials. The District Court is available for larger meetings so the additional multi-purpose room need not accommodate more than 25 people.

Periodic additions and renovations have met the needs of the municipal offices through the years and will probably meet the immediate future needs. However, as the town grows and municipal functions expand, the resulting needs for space in the town hall should be given careful thought in order to provide the most efficient and economical facilities. The town hall affects both the operation of the municipal offices and the image of the town. A modern, efficiently planned town hall would give a more favorable impression of the town and its administration to prospective residents and businesses as well as being a source of pride to those already in the community. Well planned facilities would certainly make possible more efficient operation of municipal functions as they increase. Major changes will probably be

necessary within the twenty year planning period and the town may wish to consider the advantages of planning a new building to replace a major portion of the existing facilities rather than attempting to continue to remodel and add on to the present facilities. The town hall is in a good central location and there is adequate space at the site for future development.



ORGANIZATION CHART

PARKING

Public parking is not generally considered a public responsibility and therefore is not usually included in a community facilities plan. However, with the increased use and importance of automobiles, parking has become a necessity for the economic life of most business districts. Many small towns and most larger cities are now making studies to find solutions to their economic decline. One major factor is often the availability of public parking, easily accessible to the general public and convenient to all businesses.

Businessmen in Red Springs have informally reached the same conclusions and have provided some public parking areas. They have apparently felt that these parking areas will help to maintain the economic well-being of Red Springs as a commercial center for the surrounding area.

Areas owned or leased by local merchants have been prepared and made available for public parking. The town public works department provides lighting and some maintenance depending on the work load of the department. The town has one paved parking area in the business district in addition to the area at the town hall.

A more organized approach to the provision of public parking should be developed. The town may cooperate in the lighting of parking areas and provide some maintenance as it is now doing. The major financial responsibility of public parking should remain with the businesses directly benefited.

CEMETERY

The Town of Red Springs owns and operates the only cemetery now serving the Red Springs area. The cemetery was taken over by the town in 1935 and has been municipally operated since that time. The public works staff maintains the cemetery. Current charges are \$100 for an eight-grave plot and \$60 for a four-grave plot. The cemetery site comprises an area of 25 acres, of which about 12 acres are developed. The developed area is nearly filled and additional area needs to be developed.

Municipally operated cemeteries need not be revenue producing facilities, but the charges for plots should be realistically based on the expenses of operating and maintaining the cemetery in an acceptable condition.

Present policies should be reviewed to see if the charges are sufficient to cover the expense of maintenance services provided by the town. Plans should also be made for the further development of the cemetery to take care of future needs. About 8 acres of the area is suitable for further development and this should be sufficient for the needs of the town for twenty years or more.

INDUSTRIAL PARK

The industrial park located north of Red Springs on N. C. 211 is the former municipal airport. The town obtained permission in the 1950's by a special act of the state legislature to subdivide and sell the land for industrial purposes. The 124 acre area was subdivided into six tracts, one of which is occupied by the sewage lagoon treatment facility. Two other tracts have been developed and there are commitments for two more tracts. One tract is vacant with no commitment.

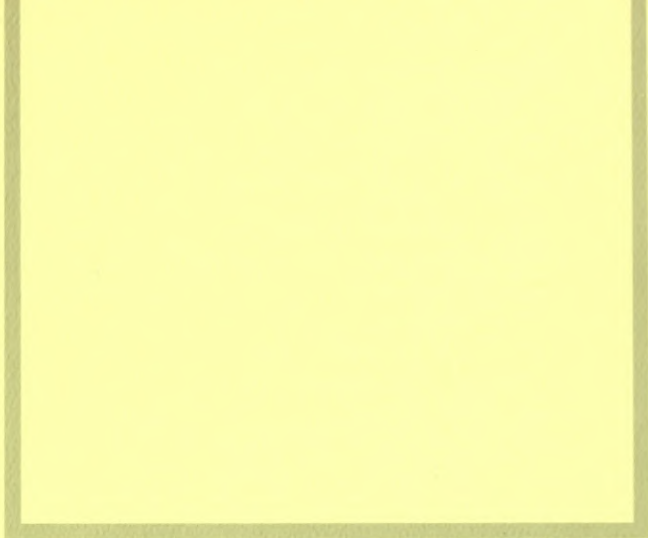
The town has agreed to provide sewer and water service in the industrial park. Fire protection from the municipal fire department is also available. Electric power is provided by Carolina Power and Light or the municipal power company, depending on individual usage and demands.

Suitable sites for industrial development are an aid to the economic development of a community. However, municipal governments should be careful in agreeing to provide services to areas outside the corporate limits. Service charges are not usually sufficient to pay the costs involved and the taxpayers may end up subsidizing private businesses. Purchase of land by public agencies is not the only means of reserving suitable sites for industrial development. Zoning regulations may be useful in preventing residential development of land which is well suited for industrial purposes. Subdivision ordinances may also help to prevent premature subdivision of large tracts of land necessary for industry.

AIRPORT

The Town of Red Springs does not have a municipal airport. The nearest public airport is the Maxton-Laurinburg Airport approximately 12 miles from Red Springs. A privately owned air strip has been developed two miles south of Red Springs at the junction of highways 710 and 72.

An airfield is an obvious attraction to business interests and a symbol of local progress. It also provides an additional means of access for visitors to an area. In small communities, general air traffic is usually limited and the costs involved in providing airfield facilities may not be justifiable. The Maxton-Laurinburg Airport is less than 12 miles from Red Spring and should adequately serve the public general aviation requirements of Red Springs during the next twenty years unless there are major changes in general aviation.



PUBLIC SAFETY



The protection of life, liberty and property and the safeguarding of health, safety, and morals is one of the most accepted of government activities. Urban development generally increases the need for protection services, and the existence of a responsible governmental unit with sufficient financial resources makes possible the provision of these necessary protection services. The level of service possible often depends on the density and extent of development. Small areas or areas of extremely low density often find it financially impossible to provide levels of service normally found in urban areas. Private citizens may then serve as volunteers when it is not possible to have a full-time professional staff.

Protective services are generally divided between the police and fire departments. The police department is thought of as a law enforcement agency which is also responsible for crime prevention and regulation of traffic among other activities. The fire department is concerned primarily with two major objectives: fire prevention and fire fighting. Other public safety activities include rescue and ambulance service and civil defense.

POLICE PROTECTION

The Red Springs Police Department provides law enforcement services within the corporate limits of Red Springs. The police staff includes a chief, two sergeants, and three patrolmen. Two jail matrons also serve when needed. There are two men on a shift at all times, one at the communications desk and the other on patrol. The man at the desk serves a dual purpose since he also answers the fire phone and attends the fire alarm. There are three men on the Friday and Saturday evening shift. The chief has attended various police training schools and conferences for law enforcement officials. The rest of the police staff have received their training through informal in-service training. Rescue squad members aid the police in emergencies and in directing traffic at ball games.

The police department headquarters are located in the town hall. Facilities are limited to one small room used as a communications room. The police department has one 1967 Chevrolet cruiser which is used for patrol. The police department cruiser is replaced every two years. The cruiser is equipped with radio and the police department radio is connected with the Robeson County police system as well as the State Highway Patrol system in Elizabethtown.

The 1966-67 annual budget for the police department is approximately \$29,000.

Small towns are considered to be adequately protected if there is at least one police officer on duty at all times, if all areas of the community are patrolled on a frequent basis, and if there are policemen or auxiliary personnel for such activities as providing protection at school crossings, mass meetings, and emergencies. More specific requirements would depend upon the number of incidents requiring police attention in the community and demands for other specific services.

Policemen should have formal training in law enforcement if possible. Short courses are given at several technical training institutes and community colleges. The Institute of Government in Chapel Hill also offers courses for law enforcement officials. However, many small community police departments do not find it possible to send their men to even short courses. In such cases, the International Association of Chiefs of Police publishes a bi-monthly bulletin, Training Key, for locally conducted training sessions. Training Key is available only to police departments subscribing for their entire staff at \$2.00 per man. Back issues are also available. The Institute of Government considers this an excellent training aid for small departments if used in the recommended manner with monthly or bi-monthly sessions devoted to the material covered in the bulletin.

Recommendations

Personnel. The present staff and community requirements for police protection result in 60 hour weeks for the staff. It is recommended that the department be increased to eight men to reduce the week to 48 hours. This would be adequate until the population increases to approximately 6,000 or other conditions change requiring additional staff. Since the population is not expected to reach 6,000 during the planning period, a staff of 8 should be adequate. If the work week is reduced, additional staff will be required. Unforeseeable changes in law enforcement methods or community requirements for police protection could also alter personnel requirements in the future.

Equipment. One additional cruiser is necessary to provide the patrolling service demanded by the community.

Headquarters. The police department should have a well-equipped communications room, an office for the chief, and a small meeting-locker room for the rest of the staff. These requirements should be filled when the town hall is partially remodeled.

TOWN JAIL

The police department also has the use of the jail in the town hall. There are no state regulations governing the provision of municipal jails. State legislation limits the holding of prisoners in municipal jails to 24 hours or less. Municipal jails are solely for temporary holding of prisoners until they can be tried or transferred to a county or state jail.

The State Board of Public Welfare has the authority to approve all existing jails in the state. There are no state standards for jails but the Board of Public Welfare uses the standards adopted by the American Correctional Association. Standards and regulations are currently being developed for adoption by the state.

The demands for jails in small towns are somewhat subjective. The frequency with which jails are used in small towns does not usually warrant the existence of this relatively expensive and rarely used facility. The need for temporary holding of prisoners is usually best met by the use of an approved county jail. Unless a community has an unusually frequent demand for holding of prisoners or is located a great distance from an approved county jail, small towns should use the county jail. Some time and expense may be involved in the transportation of prisoners to the county jail but then it would not be necessary to have someone on duty in the local community for a single prisoner.

The existing jail in Red Springs has five cells. The State Board of Public Welfare reports that it has a wood ceiling and is not fire proof. Lighting, ventilation and sleeping arrangements are inadequate. There is no one in attendance at all times and there is no security. The jail could be condemned and then the town officials would be forced to discontinue its use. Red Springs must make some changes

in the holding of prisoners. Before plans are made to build a new jail, town officials should carefully consider the actual needs for holding prisoners. If the operation of the District Court does not require a temporary holding jail and police department records do not indicate that the number of arrests temporary holding in the town jail warrant continuation of the jail, the town should seriously consider its elimination. The town could then depend on the Robeson County jail in Lumberton for its limited needs of temporary holding of prisoners.

FIRE PROTECTION

The Red Springs Fire Department provides fire protection in the Red Springs area. Although it is a municipal fire department it answers calls in the surrounding rural area up to a distance of about three miles. The 1966-67 appropriation from the town's general fund for the fire department is \$9,640. About \$7,000 of the 1966-67 appropriation is for the new pumper. Annual appropriations for the fire department average between \$2,500 and \$3,500.

The Red Springs fire department is an all volunteer department. There are twenty-two volunteer firemen: a chief, one assistant chief, four captains, and sixteen regular firemen. A total of fifteen firemen are available for duty at all times. A volunteer secretary keeps the department records. Five firemen have had some form of formal fire training outside of the community. Local training sessions are held each month in Red Springs. Locations of these training sessions are changed each month to acquaint the men with facilities, problems, and appropriate fire fighting methods in different areas of town. Monthly organizational meetings are also held by the department.

The fire department operates out of the fire station in the town hall. The station has space for two vehicles and has direct access to Main Street. There is also storage space for other minor equipment. The fire department has two major pieces of equipment: a 1967, 750 gallon Howe pumper on an 850 Ford chassis and a 1953, 750 gallon Howe pumper with a 1,000 gallon auxiliary tank on a Ford chassis. The department also has a 1942 Chevrolet sedan which is used by the fire chief. Both of the pumpers are housed in the fire station. Before the arrival of the 1967 pumper, the rescue squad ambulance was also housed in the fire station. In order that both the pumpers may have direct access to the street, the rescue squad ambulance can no

longer be housed in the fire station. When the chief is at the fire station, his car must be parked on the street in front of the station. The fire department depends on telephone calls for fire calls. The fire phone is located in the police communications rooms adjacent to the fire station. A police communications officer is on duty at all times and serves both the police and fire departments. Fire alarm call boxes are located in the town offices and in the communications room. The call boxes activate the fire alarm sirens at the rear of the town hall and at the armory. This alarm system is considered adequate for small communities. More elaborate and effective telephone alarm systems are available but their cost would probably be prohibitive.

The fire department is responsible for the inspection of buildings for fire hazards. The fire chief inspects all buildings annually. The fire department and local insurance agents cooperate in the fire prevention programs conducted in the schools.

N. C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau

The North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau is an independent organization which sets fire insurance rates for communities in the state. Ratings are based on local and national experience. Many aspects of a community's fire protection service are considered. Following is a list of factors considered and their relative importance in the overall rating.

1) Water supply	34%
2) Fire department	30%
3) Fire alarm	11%
4) Fire prevention	7%

- 5) Building laws 4%
- 6) Structural conditions 14%

The local community is graded on each of the above factors and the final tabulation of the deficiencies discovered in the grading determines the rating for given community. Ratings range from a high of Class 1 to a low of Class 9AA (a minimum of fire protection in rural communities with very limited water supplies).

The Fire Insurance Rating Bureau last inspected Red Springs in 1965 and the present rating for the town is Class 8. This is the usual rating for small communities with water supplies and volunteer fire departments. The Town of Red Springs rates well within Class 8 and could upgrade its fire rating to Class 7. The major factor in improving the Red Springs rating is the organization of a part paid fire department with at least one paid fireman on duty at all times. This usually requires two men on alternating 24 hour shifts. The value of improved fire protection and lower insurance rates generally help to offset the added expenses of part paid departments. Several North Carolina towns with populations about the same as Red Springs have such part paid fire departments.

Evaluation and Recommendations

Fire Station. The fire station is in a good central location and is adequate for the present equipment. Red Springs is not expected to develop during the planning period to the point where additional equipment will be necessary. One central fire station should continue to be adequate since the business district is well within the recommended one mile radius of the station, and the two mile radius recommended for average residential development includes all areas which will probably be developed in the planning period. The major need at the fire station is for office

space for the chief and fire department records. If the town decides to organize a part paid department, facilities for the full-time firemen will also be necessary.

Personnel. Only five of the firemen have had formal fire training or attended fire training sessions outside of Red Springs. It is recommended that more of the firemen attend the training programs conducted by community colleges and technical training centers, the N. C. Department of Insurance, and other recognized agencies. When the Fire Insurance Rating Bureau inspected Red Springs in 1965, the regular local fire drills were considered incomplete and fire fighting methods were weak. Additional firemen should have training in conducting these drills and training sessions.

Building Inspection and Records. The Fire Insurance Rating Bureau rated building and electrical inspections only as fair and records of inspections were not considered adequate. Building inspections and rigid enforcement of fire codes have been found to eliminate a significant proportion of fire losses in other communities. Moves should be taken to improve this aspect of the fire protection program. Inspection duties could be consolidated with other town inspection duties and specially trained and qualified personnel assigned to this essential function.

Fire Equipment Inspection. Records of fire equipment inspections are also inadequate. All equipment should have individual records showing date of purchase and usage, as well as dates and results of all inspections or tests of the equipment. Such records are essential for the evaluation and maintenance of all equipment. Fire hydrants and underground valves also require periodic inspection and individual records should be maintained for them.

Communications. Special telephone call systems are available for installation and use by volunteer fire departments. They are desirable in that valuable time

can be saved in answering alarms. However, the commercial systems are still expensive and probably not financially feasible for the Red Springs fire department. Some volunteer departments have been able to devise other systems at considerably lower costs. Members of the Red Springs fire department may wish to investigate what other departments have done.

Organization and Operation. The Red Springs fire department now answers fire calls in the surrounding area up to a distance of about three miles. It is not legally required to do so, but the department is supported through the utility fund and some revenue comes from the municipal electric utility which supplies some consumers in the rural area surrounding Red Springs. Thus, the town feels that it has a moral obligation to provide fire protection in some areas beyond the corporate limits.

In some cases a payment for rural fire calls is made, but this is not required. Before the arrival of the 1967 pumper, the 1938 pumper was the only equipment held in reserve for the town when rural fire calls were answered. The rural area accounts for most of the fire calls answered by the Red Springs fire department. Thus, before the arrival of the new pumper, the town was paying for fire protection which was not available when equipment was sent to rural areas. An ordinance now stipulates that the 1967 pumper will be reserved for use within the town. Under existing conditions the Fire Insurance Rating Bureau recommends that the 1953 pumper and maximum of four men be sent on any call outside the corporate limits, holding the 1967 pumper and remaining firemen for calls within the town. Thus, the town would be assured of adequate protection at all times.

With the arrival of the new pumper it would be wise for the department and town officials to examine their fire protection policies and department organization. Fire protection is essential in both urban and rural areas and should be provided.

However, the position of the town should be clarified and equitable financial arrangements should be made if the town is to continue to serve rural areas.

Rural fire districts may be formed around towns and operate in conjunction with the municipal fire department. There are problems which must be worked out, but in order to provide this necessary service on an equitable basis some changes must be made. Urban and rural fire fighting are very different and any arrangement would require the following:

- 1) Division of the fire department into a minimum of two units, one section trained and reserved for using town fire fighting equipment on town fires where hydrants with a large volume of water are available, and the other reserved for using the rural apparatus and trained to think in terms of utilizing the water carried with them to the maximum degree in extinguishing a fire.
- 2) Different fire alarms for town and rural fires so that the proper section of the fire department would report to the fire station to take out the proper equipment.
- 3) The fire department equipment for the town should be fully maintained to meet minimum needs for the insurance classification. The equipment for rural response should meet minimum standards as set forth in the pamphlet, "General Provisions Pertaining to Public Fire Defenses for Communities with Limited Water Supply."* The rural equipment is in addition to the recommended municipal equipment.

* N. C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau, "General Provisions Pertaining to Public Fire Defenses for Communities with Limited Water Supply," Raleigh, N. C., (1964).

4) Personnel should also be sufficient for the two departments. The minimum for the rural department would be eighteen men. Since the chief would be provided for the overall department, the rural section would consist of an assistant chief, two captains, and fifteen firemen. The present town fire department could continue as the town section of a joint department.

With the above changes in facilities, operation, and personnel, the Red Springs fire department should be adequate to meet the needs of the community during the twenty year planning period.

RESCUE SQUAD AND AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Red Springs Rescue Squad is a volunteer organization. Two local auto dealers alternate in furnishing the squad with a new station wagon to be used as an ambulance. The ambulance is equipped with a radio which is connected with the police department system. The rescue squad also owns a 1953 Pontiac ambulance and a 1956 Chevrolet panel truck. The Pontiac ambulance may be used in emergency. The panel truck is used for transportation of rescue equipment and is equipped with a citizens band radio. Several members of the squad also have citizens band radios in their personal cars.

The Town of Red Springs contributes \$400 per year from the utility fund for the operation of the rescue squad. The rest of the squad's expenses are met through private contributions and special fund raising events.

The rescue squad ambulance was housed in the fire station before the arrival of the new pumper. The fire station was a convenient location because of the related nature of the rescue, fire and police activities and the proximity of the police communication system. The ambulance is now stationed in front of the town hall.


The nature of the rescue squad services would indicate that its support should be more widely based. Rescue service is more generally required in rural areas - along waterways and lakes - than in urban areas. It is therefore perhaps more of a county function than a municipal function, although it might naturally be based in a centrally located town or city. County-wide organization and support of the rescue squad should be investigated. Individual units or organizations could be retained as part of a county-wide organization or network.

Regular ambulance service provided by the local funeral director is felt to be adequate in Red Springs. Because of the nature of a small town and the close relationship between the citizens and the local funeral director, it is not likely that ambulance service would be refused to a local citizen. However, ambulance services provided by funeral directors are often inadequate due to improper equipment and lack of properly trained personnel. This could only be improved if an ambulance service were organized for a larger area.

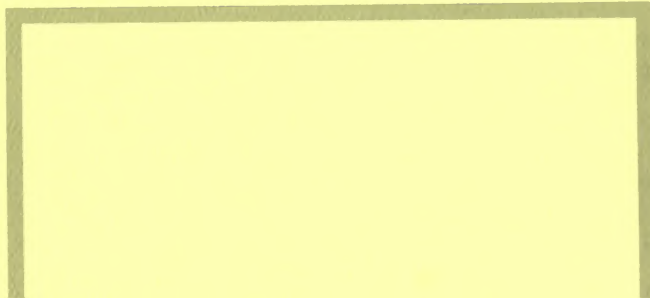
CIVIL DEFENSE

Red Springs has a Civil Defense Director and is part of the Robeson County Civil Defense radio network. There is an annual appropriation of \$50 from the town general fund for the Civil Defense program but the program is essentially inactive.

Civil Defense programs in small communities do not require full-time directors. Federal assistance is available for staff if certain requirements are met, but few small towns can justify support of even a part-time staff. Thus, Civil Defense programs in towns like Red Springs are usually volunteer programs. Nevertheless, essential and meaningful programs can be conducted on a volunteer basis. It should be remembered that many Civil Defense programs can be of assistance in natural disasters and other catastrophies. Civil Defense activities could possibly be coordinated with the fire department or the rescue squad, thus gaining wider support and organizational interest. Possible Civil Defense activities are a community shelter program and courses in medical self-help and first-aid.



UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS



POWER AND LIGHT

Electric power in the Red Springs area is supplied through the municipal power and light department. The franchise includes the corporate area of the town, the one-mile fringe area, about two miles along Duffy Road (West Second Avenue), and about four miles in the direction of Philadelphus. The town owns the distribution system and purchases power from the Carolina Power and Light Company. Major users (over 25 horsepower) are supplied directly by Carolina Power and Light, so the two major mills in the area are not supplied by the municipal power company.

In June of 1966 there were 1,242 consumers and maximum demand was 2,549 kilowatts. The system has an operating capacity of 4,000 kilowatts. L. E. Wooten & Company, Consulting Engineers of Raleigh, North Carolina, made a study of the electrical distribution system in 1964. Major improvements recommended in the study were completed in 1966. A new switchyard and circuit breakers were installed and the system was converted to 4,160 WYE volts with a maximum capacity of 4,000 kilowatts. Assuming a ten percent annual increase in demand, the system's capacity will be adequate for eight to ten years from the time the engineers made the study. Therefore, between 1972 and 1974, the system will probably require major conversion to increase its capacity.

An electrical system's capacity may be increased by converting the entire system to a higher voltage at one time or by installing a loop system of higher voltage and then gradually converting the existing system. The recent conversion was made by increasing line voltages from 2,400 volts to 4,160 volts. Since the transformers were made for both voltages, they did not have to be replaced to make this change. Future increases in line capacity will require replacement of existing

transformers with new ones of the higher capacity. Additions to the present system should be made with consideration of possible future changes in the system.

The municipal electrical utility is both the town's major source of revenue and its major expense. It is also the only municipal utility which operates at a profit. Municipal utilities are in a preferred position as a result of their exemptions from federal and state income taxes and from state and local property taxes. This is one of the major factors which enables the electrical utility to operate at a substantial profit. These profits are then used to help defray the costs of general government operations.

The support of general government functions by utility profits is often a political and administrative expediency. Tax rates may be kept lower if a majority of municipal funds come from utility fees. There are even a few small cities which are entirely tax-free as a result of the profitable operation of local utilities. Many argue that it is proper to apply utility profits to general government operation. However, this may result in inequitable distribution of the tax burden if utility rates are lower for large consumers. This would have the opposite effect of the generally accepted graduated taxation based on tax paying ability.

There is also the danger of token support of a variety of functions through utility funds. If public functions such as libraries and recreation are considered to be in the public interest and deserving of major public support, approval of tax levies for their support should not be avoided. The public can then know what various activities actually cost and measure to some degree the benefits derived from tax dollars.



Another major danger in municipal electrical utilities is that of setting rates artificially low and neglecting the maintenance and long range improvements of the system. Electrical power is an essential community service and the system must

be maintained and improved as any private utility. The town cannot expect to continue to provide good service if rates are not set at a realistic level and a portion of the revenues allocated for maintenance and future expansion of the system.

The town should seek to retain this valuable public utility and maintain an adequate level of service. Engineering services should eventually be retained to plan for future expansion which will probably be necessary between 1972 and 1974. In planning for the expansion of the system in new areas and rewiring of old areas, consideration should be given to underground wiring. This is especially important to the appearance of the business district and new residential areas.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM
SERVICE AREA



-  RED SPRINGS MUNICIPAL SYSTEM
-  CAROLINA POWER AND LIGHT CO. AND LUMBEE RIVER ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORP.

RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA



STREET LIGHTING

Lighting of streets and other public areas is a necessity and a public responsibility for several reasons. In many cases it is primarily an aid to traffic, facilitating movement of cars and protecting pedestrians. In areas not occupied at night adequate lighting is a positive factor in crime prevention. Appropriate night lighting is also a help in promoting business. A well-lighted business district is more convenient to use, as well as being more attractive to the customer. Each area has its own special lighting needs which must be worked out with reference to its use, area, paving, tree planting and general character. Lighting standards are constantly being revised upward and higher capacity lighting methods are being developed to meet new requirements. Periodic review and revision of lighting standards and facilities is necessary.

A lighting study should consider the quality of light and the appearance of lighting fixtures as well as the intensity of light. The aesthetic qualities of lighting are as important as the quality of light in commercial and residential areas. Many business districts are now making expensive revisions in their lighting systems in order to make them more attractive and thus enable these areas to continue to compete for the customer against modern shopping centers.

Street lighting in Red Springs is furnished by the power and light department. There are a total of 215 lights in the street lighting system. One hundred ninety-three are owned by the town and twenty-two in the mill area are leased from the mill owners. The town lighting system is composed of 175 watt mercury lamps in residential areas and 400 watt mercury lamps in the business district. Lights in residential areas are located at street corners and in the centers of long blocks.

A higher level of lighting is provided in the business district by the use of higher capacity lamps and closer spacing. All residential lighting was converted to the 175 watt mercury lamps in 1964 and 1965.

The town also provides night lighting at the ball park in the mill area and has installed night lighting for a ball park at Peterson School.

Street lighting is adequate and meets standards generally recommended for small towns. The higher intensity lighting for the business district should be extended along North Main Street, Third and Fourth Avenues, and public parking areas should have some lighting to make them more convenient to use at night. The lighting system should be well maintained and extended as residential areas are developed.

WATER

An adequate water supply is one of the most vital community services. Water is required for human consumption, sanitation, fire protection, recreation, and the needs of industry and commerce. The adequacy of a water system is determined by its quality as well as its quantity. Good water must have a pleasant taste, and be free from odor and color. Water should be suitable for industrial and commercial uses without excessive mineral content which may harm equipment or the water distribution system.

The Town of Red Springs has two water systems. The original town system was begun about 1915 with the drilling of wells and laying of water mains. This system was gradually expanded and improved to meet the growing demands of the town. The area known as Midstate Mill, annexed by Red Springs in 1964, also had a water system. The Midstate Mill system was begun in the early 1940's and was maintained by the mill until it was acquired by the town in 1958.

The town owes its name to the red stains from the water of the springs in the area. In the later 1800's the water was valuable for the medicinal values it was thought to have. However, the high iron content of the water from the wells is now more of a liability, having caused tuberculation of the pipes and requiring treatment to lower the water's iron content.

Red Springs is entirely dependent upon deep wells for its water supply. A study of the Red Springs water facilities in 1964 by Moore, Gardner and Associates states, ". . . the nearest dependable (surface) supply would be the Lumber River not less than eight miles distance from Red Springs and the cost of development of such a supply with intake, raw water mains, water treatment plant and connection to

distribution would be such as to make its consideration uneconomical except in a case of dire emergency. The record of the present wells in the Town of Red Springs would therefore preclude any serious consideration of a surface supply for the next several years."

The town now has three producing wells. A fourth well drilled in 1946 deteriorated to the point that it required reconditioning in 1966. It collapsed during the reconditioning process in January of 1967 and is no longer of any value. A new well has been drilled and is scheduled to be added to the system in June, 1967. The individual capacities of the producing wells are in the following table.

WELL	DATE	LOCATION	MAX. CAPACITY	CURRENT PUMPING
1	1949	East of town treatment plant	500 gpm	300 gpm
2	1951	West of town treatment plant	500 gpm	300 gpm
3	1946	Mill treatment plant	Abandoned January, 1967	
4	1966	East of mill treatment plant	700 gpm	500 gpm
5	1967	Peterson Street	700 gpm	(June, 1967)
TOTAL			2400 gpm	1100 gpm

The water from the wells is very soft and acid in nature and contains a high concentration of iron. This makes treatment necessary for removal of the iron and control of the PH value. Water from wells 1 and 2 is treated at the town treatment plant. This plant has a rated capacity of 450 gallons per minutes and is currently operated at 500 gallons per minute. A treatment plant in the mill area has a rated capacity of 300 gallons per minute and is operated at 200 gallons per minute to treat the water from the well east of the plant.

Pressure is maintained on the lines of the distribution system from elevated water storage tanks. There are two elevated tanks on the town system: an old 75,000 gallon capacity tank located near the center of the system at the rear of the town hall and a relatively new 200,000 gallon tank near the northern limits of the town. These two tanks have overflow at the same level and can be maintained on the system without special valving. In the Midstate Mill area there is a 100,000 gallon tank which served that area before it was tied into the town system. This tank is at a different elevation from the other storage tanks and can only be used with the rest of the system with the installation of special valving. It is not now used as part of the system.

Municipal water and sewer facilities are available to approximately 95 percent of all residences within the corporate limits. Two textile mills and some residences outside the corporate limits are also served. There are a total of 951 consumers and average daily consumption is 381,500 gallons per day. Maximum daily consumption is about 500,000 gallons per day.







There are a total of 16.23 miles of water mains in the distribution system. Most of the mains are 6 inches in diameter. There are still a few lines less than 6 inches in diameter in the older part of Red Springs, particularly in the mill area. The high iron content of the water has caused excessive tuberculation in the pipe line system and has reduced flows in some areas, so that periodic tests are necessary to see if hydrant flows meet requirements for fire protection.

Water and sewer lines are extended in the town as required by development at no cost to the developer or resident. The water and sewer departments are not on a self-sustaining revenue system and the receipts are not adequate to cover any expansion. In most cases deficits in the water and sewer utilities are roughly equal to the expenditures for capital improvements.







MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM



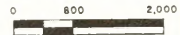
EXISTING FACILITIES

-  UNDER 6" MAINS
-  6"-8" MAINS
-  10" & OVER MAINS
-  WELLS
-  TREATMENT PLANT
-  ELEVATED STORAGE

PROPOSED FACILITIES

-  6"-8" MAINS
-  12" MAINS
-  WELL LOCATION
-  TREATMENT PLANT
-  ELEVATED STORAGE
-  GROWTH AREAS

RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA



EVALUATION

The town presently has major deficiencies in the treatment, storage, and distribution of water. In order to maintain an adequate supply it is necessary to be constantly attentive to the wells since they may deteriorate over time and eventually require replacement or reconditioning. This is illustrated by the well in the mill area which had a productive life of about 20 years.

Moore, Gardner and Associates, Inc., Consulting Engineers of Asheboro, North Carolina, made a study of Red Springs water facilities in 1964. A bond issue for the improvements recommended in their study was defeated at an election in 1964. However, a few improvements have been made since that time, including a new well and the installation of some new mains.

The engineers recommended in 1964 that the town have a dependable supply of 700 gpm or 1,000,000 gallons per day. At the time of the study, the engineers set the dependable capacity of the two existing wells at 50 percent of their given capacity resulting in a combined capacity of 330 gpm for wells 1 and 2. If the dependable capacity of the new well drilled since the study were set at 50 percent of its rated capacity, the total capacity of the system would be 580 gpm. The engineers further recommended when the demand required the wells be operated for 16 or more hours per day that further expansion of the supply be made. It is likely that sometime between 1975 and 1980, usage will have increased to the point that additional capacity is necessary. This assumes that per capita usage remains at the present levels. It is also assumed that wells will not deteriorate thereby reducing production or requiring replacement. If there are changes in per capita usage or the

output of the wells, both of which are likely, it will be necessary to increase capacity before 1975.

The existing treatment plants are inadequate and should be replaced. They are not designed to give a satisfactory level of treatment even under approved capacities. The town iron removal plant is overloaded and is not providing even the minimal level of treatment for which it was designed. The engineers proposed a new iron removal plant with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons per day. This would be adequate to serve the needs of the town at current per capita usage until the population reaches approximately 6,000. At that time it would be operating at an average of 60 percent of capacity and further expansion should be considered.

Storage facilities should be brought to the levels recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. Moore, Gardner and Associates projected the population of Red Springs to be 6,000 in 1980, requiring an overall storage capacity of 1,500,000 gallons. Since the town now has a population of about 4,000 where a reserve storage capacity of 1,200,000 gallons is required, it appears that taking off the present storage of 275,000 gallons, an additional storage amount of between 925,000 and 1,225,000 would be dictated. The engineers felt this would be beyond the economical reach of the community. They therefore recommended that 500,000 gallons of storage be provided, located near the mill area, making provision for future erection of another 500,000 gallon tank in the vicinity of the new water treatment facility when this could be worked into the construction schedule of the community. The addition of 500,000 gallons of elevated storage was considered a minimum but even this was not approved by the voters in a special referendum. In any event the addition of 500,000 gallons of capacity would greatly enhance the position of the community from the fire protection standpoint. Any new storage facility should be set at an elevation to balance with the two existing storage tanks.

The primary problem in water distribution is the connection of the mill area with the rest of the town. A 6 inch main was installed in 1964 connecting the two systems. This is inadequate to integrate the two systems and the engineers recommend the installation of a 12 inch main between the existing storage facilities and the proposed storage facility in the mill area. All mains less than 6 inches should be replaced where service still is needed. Newly installed mains should never be less than 6 inches. Efforts should be made to avoid or eliminate dead ends and to attempt to develop circulating loop systems in all areas.

SANITARY SEWERAGE AND DISPOSAL

The satisfactory collection and treatment of domestic, commercial, and industrial wastes is one of the most essential functions in an urban area. In rural areas where soils are conducive liquid wastes may be treated satisfactorily by the use of septic tanks. But in more densely populated areas expensive sewer installation and treatment facilities are essential to avoid the dangers of contamination and pollution of surface and ground water. Wastes must not only be removed from the immediate area in which they originate. They must also be treated and rendered harmless before the effluent is discharged into waterways.

The Town of Red Springs operates two sewage treatment facilities, a domestic treatment plant at the northeastern edge of the town and a small capacity sewage lagoon in the industrial park north of the town. Both plants discharge the effluent into Little Raft Swamp.

The domestic sewage treatment plant was constructed in 1958 as part of a major sewage improvement program. It provides "secondary" treatment by the trickling filter process. The plant has a capacity of 500,000 gallons per day and its operation is approved by the N. C. State Department of Water Resources. The current average flow is 420,000 gallons per day, indicating that it is probably overloaded at peak periods.

The Town of Red Springs has also agreed to treat the wastes of industries located in the industrial park north of the current corporate limits. A sewage lagoon was built at the park and approved in January, 1962, for a capacity of 20,000 gallons per day. The average daily flow through this lagoon is now 80,000 gallons

per day. Properly designed and maintained lagoon facilities provide adequate sewage treatment. However, the existing facility at the industrial park is obviously overloaded under current flows and therefore not providing the required level of treatment. Under these conditions the effluent is seriously contaminating Little Raft Swamp.

The collector system consists of 12.85 miles of sewers and two lift stations. The lift station in the northeast section serves most of the town. A lift station located at the old mill sewage treatment facility serves the mill area. Gravity lines serve the Peterson area and extreme southern and southeastern sections of Red Springs.

The operation of the sewage system is financed through the utility fund. The sewer rate is 50 percent of water billing for industrial consumers only, and out-of-town rates are the same as in-town rates. Sewer lines are extended and connected as required by development. This is done at no cost to the developer or occupant by the town public works department.

The major current problem is the treatment of wastes from the industrial park. Any action taken should take into consideration the future overall needs of the town. An engineering study of sanitary sewerage was made in 1964 by Moore, Gardner, and Associates, Consulting Engineers of Asheboro, North Carolina. Their study recommended the expansion of the existing sewage treatment plant to a capacity of 1,500,000 gallons per day. Another 15" to 18" trunk line would be constructed to serve the Pecan Orchard residential area and the industrial park and other future development northeast of Little Raft Swamp. The existing lift station would have to be improved to serve the additional area. The existing sewage lagoon in the industrial park would be abandoned or used only for preliminary treatment. An additional lift station and collector system is needed to serve the area north of Fourth Street and west of Liberty Street. Part of this area is now within the corporate limits but does not have sewage facilities. The rest of the area should be incorporated into

the town and urban services made available to the area. Additional mains and house connections are necessary in the Peterson area and the southeastern section of the city.

The recommendations contained in the 1964 study should be carried out in order to protect the health and well being of Red Springs residents and that of other communities along waterways contaminated by the wastes of Red Springs.

At current per capita levels of water usage and discharge into the sewerage system a sewage treatment plant with the recommended capacity of 1,500,000 gallons per day will be adequate for the planning period.

SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEM



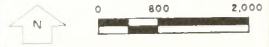
EXISTING SYSTEM

- 6" - 8" MAINS
- 10" - 15" MAINS
- 18" + MAINS
- LIFT STATION

PROPOSED ADDITIONS

- OR EXPANSIONS
- 6" - 8" MAINS
 - 10" - 15" MAINS
 - LIFT STATION

RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA



REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse collection and disposal is administered by the Sanitation Department which provides daily collection for commercial areas and collection twice a week for residences. The town does not collect industrial wastes. Trash and rubbish is collected at the curb as required by the season and depending on the work load of the Sanitation Department.

The Sanitation Department includes one foreman, four laborers, and two trash and rubbish men. The department uses one packer truck, one combination packer-leaf vacuum truck, and one scowbody truck. Refuse and trash are dumped in an area operated by the town adjacent to the sewage disposal plant. The town owns 112.5 acres along Little Raft Swamp adjacent to but outside the Red Springs corporate limits. The refuse and rubbish is burned and covered with dirt from time to time. The dump is relatively isolated where its operation does not adversely affect surrounding land uses and the prevailing winds generally carry any objectionable smoke and foul odors away from the town.

The Sanitary Engineering Division of the North Carolina State Board of Health recommends a sanitary landfill as the cheapest acceptable method of refuse disposal for cities with populations less than 100,000. Open dumps are generally disagreeable, polluting the air with foul odors and smoke and harboring rodents and insects. The sanitary landfill is merely a means of burying the refuse daily by compacting it and covering it with a layer of soil.

It is recommended that the town convert its present operation into a true sanitary landfill in order to provide the recommended level of sanitary service.

There is adequate area at the site of the sewage treatment plant for the sanitary landfill requirements of Red Springs during the planning period.

STREETS

There are 21.15 miles of streets in Red Springs. The state maintains 6.81 miles of streets within the town or about 32 percent of the town's streets. North Carolina highways 211, 72, and 71 pass through Red Springs. Essentially all of the state system streets are paved. The town maintains 14.34 miles of streets, 87.7 percent paved and the remaining 12.3 percent graded. In the whole system there are 5.95 miles of streets with curbs and gutters. Current street improvement programs will add an additional 0.80 mile of curbs and gutters on Graham Street in the Westfield Heights area and on South Main Street. The town also maintains 0.65 miles of alleys.

The town streets are maintained by the Red Springs Public Works Department. Powell Bill funds and utility funds are used to pave and maintain streets. New streets must be graded by the developer and then are paved by the town from Powell Bill Funds. General repairs are made as necessary. Periodic repaving is also required but there is no specific scheduling of such maintenance.

Standards for locally maintained streets are largely determined by local governments, depending on the level of service which they feel is necessary and for which they are willing to pay. The absolute minimum is a public means of access passable in all kinds of weather to every occupied property. Red Springs, like most communities, has gone beyond this to provide paved streets in most areas. Standards should be uniformly applied throughout the community, with similar areas having equal facilities.

Recommendations for the improvement and expansion of the circulation system will be found in the Thoroughfare Plan. Future improvement programs should attempt

to carry out these recommendations, and regulations should be adopted to make certain that future development follows the plan. Such regulations should include type of paving as well as location and dedication of right-of-way.

Most of the unpaved streets are located in the Peterson area and the southeastern section of the town. These areas should receive priority in any street paving program.

STREET SYSTEM



- STATE MAINTAINED
- PAVED ————
- GRADED ······
- TOWN MAINTAINED
- PAVED ————
- GRADED ————

RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA



STORM DRAINAGE

A storm drainage system is necessary to carry off storm water in such a manner that it will not cause damage through flooding and erosion. The separation of storm and sanitary sewerage systems is usually necessary to prevent the overloading of sewage treatment facilities when it rains. Ditches and storm drains are man-made extensions of the natural drainage systems of streams and rivers. Rain falling on developed areas is conducted through house drains and street gutters to larger drains or ditches and eventually to a stream or river which can safely carry off surface water which does not drain into the ground.

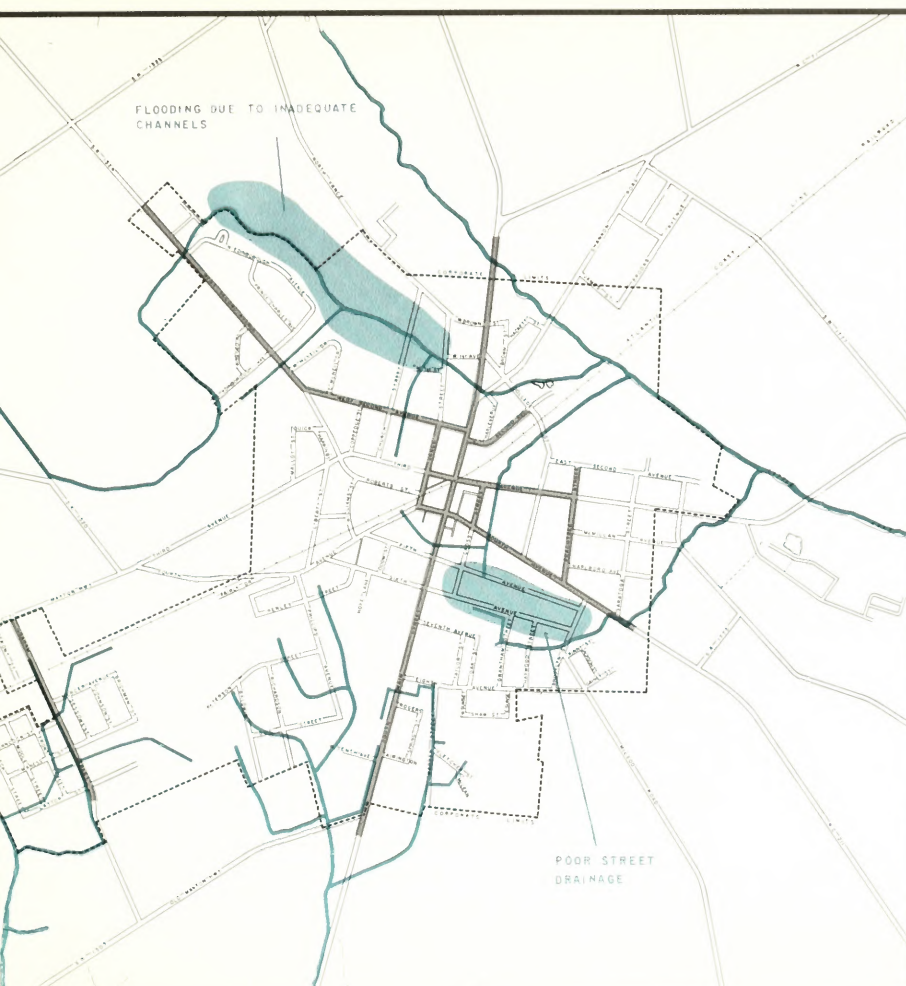
The sanitary and storm sewerage systems in Red Springs are separate. There are 2.88 miles of storm sewers and 5.95 miles of curbed streets. Improvement projects recently completed or underway will add curbs and gutters to about 0.8 mile of Graham Street and South Main Street. New storm sewers are also being built to serve these streets. Few streets in Red Springs are curbed and most residential streets do not have side drainage ditches. The town is relatively level without definite natural drainage systems. Where streets do not have sufficient grades, flooding of the streets often occurs during heavy rains. Soils are generally sandy with good internal drainage characteristics thus alleviating the drainage problem somewhat. Occasional flooding occurs along the stream between North Vance Street and West Second Avenue due to an inadequate stream channel and small culvert under Vance Street.

Drainage ditches and stream channels should be properly maintained to carry off storm water. Without proper maintenance the effectiveness of drainage ways is soon seriously affected by sediment and vegetation. The stream channel through Little

Raft Swamp also is in need of maintenance work. New streets should be properly engineered to prevent flooding of the streets and adjacent properties. Either guttering with storm sewers or side ditches are necessary to achieve this.

STORM DRAINAGE SYSTEM

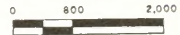
FLOODING DUE TO INADEQUATE CHANNELS



- NATURAL DRAINAGE WAY & DITCHES
- STORM SEWERS
- CURBED STREETS

POOR STREET DRAINAGE

RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA



SIDEWALKS

Sidewalks are necessary for safe, convenient pedestrian circulation. The needs for sidewalks vary with the amount of auto traffic on the street, the character of the uses along the street determining local pedestrian traffic, and the general pedestrian traffic through an area. Sidewalks are especially important for access to schools and for circulation within the business district. Sidewalks are generally adequate in business areas but are often overlooked in the development of residential areas. This is where both pupils and schools are located, and pupils are often subjected to hazardous traffic on the way to and from school.

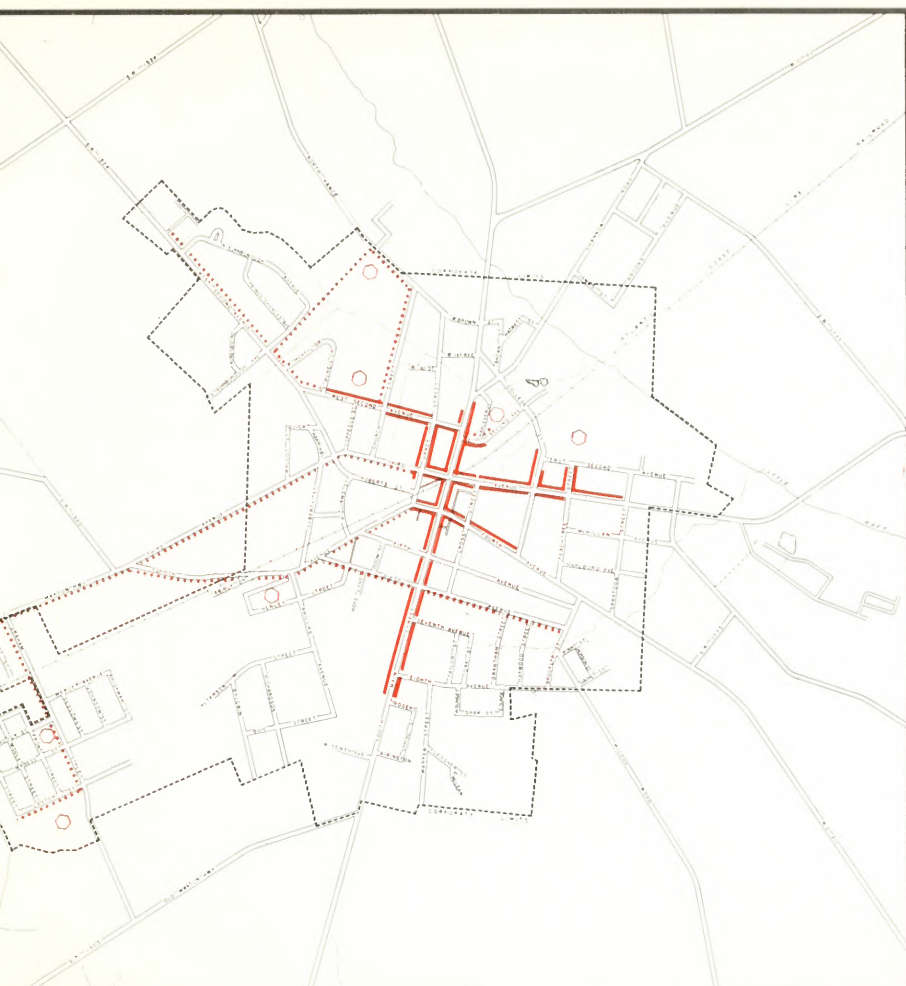
Provision and maintenance of sidewalks is generally the responsibility of the owner or occupant. This policy has led to the omission of sidewalks in many residential neighborhoods where owners or developers either did not install them because they could not afford them or because they did not want them. Some areas may not need sidewalks, but streets with moderate to heavy traffic which must be used by children should have sidewalks.

The Red Springs business district and some older residential areas generally have adequate sidewalks. Access to Peterson School from the north and east is hazardous because of the lack of sidewalks on Liberty Street and Fourth Avenue. Other streets used by Peterson School students do not have much auto traffic. Access to Red Springs School is also dangerous from the west because there are no sidewalks on parts of busy West Second Avenue.

The sidewalk system map shows existing sidewalks, pedestrian centers such as schools and parks, and proposed sidewalks where pedestrian access to schools and parks is along streets with heavy traffic. The three areas needing sidewalks are

Westfield Heights, the Peterson School area, and the Red Springs School area. When streets are opened between Westfield Heights and the Peterson area, sidewalks should be constructed to provide more direct pedestrian access for these areas. Provisions should be made for the construction of the recommended sidewalks. Regulations should also be adopted to assure the provision of sidewalks where necessary in new areas.

SIDEWALK SYSTEM



- EXISTING SIDEWALKS
- PROPOSED SIDEWALKS
- PEDESTRIAN CENTERS

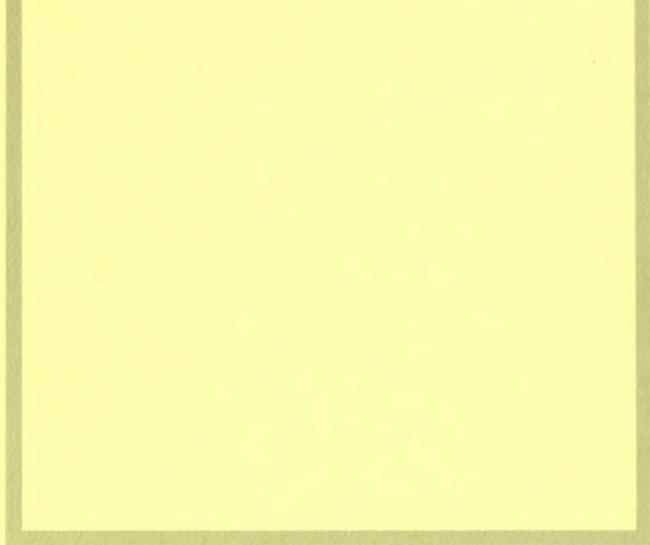
RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA



PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE AND SERVICE YARD

The Public Works Department has a service yard and garage located on Williams Street. All municipal services use this facility. The town owns about one and one-half acres in the area. Located in the complex are two wells and the iron removal plant for the water system, the electrical power substation, an apartment for the line foreman, and a shed for repair of vehicles. The area is fenced and part of it is graded for the storage of the vehicles used by the Public Works Department and the Power and Light Department.

Space is adequate for the future needs of the town during the planning period. Certain improvements are necessary including a closed building for vehicle repair and additional storage sheds for vehicles and material.



EDUCATION AND RECREATION



RED SPRINGS SCHOOLS

The Red Springs Public Schools are administered as a separate school district consisting of Red Springs Township, Shannon Township, and the eastern half of Smiths Township. The school board is composed of five members elected by popular vote for four year terms. They are not subject to approval by the state legislature.

Red Springs has a high level of educational achievement for a small rural community. It has a long tradition of support for education and was the first district in Robeson County to approve a special tax levy for its schools. The Red Springs schools have for many years been organized to provide instruction in all grades including high school. At the present time the schools are accredited by the State Department of Public Instruction and the high schools are also accredited by the Southern Association. The Red Springs schools are becoming increasingly involved in adult education programs.

There are no geographic divisions within the Red Springs school district. Two school facilities are maintained, each with all twelve grades. In the past, Red Springs School has served primarily white students and Peterson School has served Negro students. Indian students have transferred out of the district to the county Indian schools, and some white students living in other adjacent districts have transferred into the Red Springs School.

The sites of both schools are adequate in terms of area but need considerable improvement. The schools are located relatively near the centers of their present student populations. The condition of some of the older buildings still in use is considered poor and there are two mobile classrooms in use at the Peterson School.

National educational standards are constantly being raised. Various educational authorities use slightly different approaches in setting up requirements to guarantee quality and opportunity. Whatever the approach, small secondary schools face definite problems in meeting generally accepted minimums in teaching staff and academic fields offered. Red Springs is faced with this problem because it provides a situation where the minimums cannot be realized under the present organizational pattern.

The tri-racial situation in Robeson County profoundly affects the educational system. County-wide long-range planning is necessary to coordinate the various administrative units in the county. The existing attendance patterns require that any planning by one district involves other districts. No major construction other than necessary minor renovation is recommended until county-wide long-range plans are developed.

Any plans for consolidation of school districts should consider the differences which exist in financial support and educational level of the districts. Every effort should be made to consolidate districts to achieve minimum desirable levels of students but the Red Springs district should be careful not to jeopardize its slightly higher level of education.

	<u>Red Springs</u>	<u>Peterson</u>
Site in acres	31	32
Grades housed	12	12
Teachers		
Elementary	16	21
High School	14	8
Enrollment		
Elementary	507	669
High School	270	212

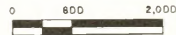
VARDELL HALL

Vardell Hall is an independent junior college and preparatory school for young women. It was established in 1964 on the 43 acre campus formerly occupied by Flora Macdonald College. Currently there are approximately 280 students enrolled. The school has no plans for the expansion of its facilities.

SCHOOLS, LIBRARY AND
RECREATION



RED SPRINGS
NORTH CAROLINA



MCMILLAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The McMillan Memorial Library is located on East Second Avenue in a residential area at the edge of the business district. The new building, designed and constructed for the library, was dedicated in 1964. The building and furnishings cost approximately \$23,000, all from private donations. There is no off-street parking but space is usually available on the street.

The library is administered by a 5-member executive board whose members are elected from the 20-member McMillan Library Board composed of representatives of Red Springs civic organizations.

The building includes a reading room with the circulation desk, a children's reading area, a small meeting room, an office-work room, utility room and restroom. This pleasant new building should remain adequate for the local needs of Red Springs during the planning period.

The library is supported through private donations and appropriations from the town utility fund. The 1965-66 budget was \$3,403. Acquisition of new books accounted for \$1,424, or a little more than 40 percent of the total budget. The library is open fourteen hours a week: 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday. The library had 2,700 volumes in June, 1966. Five hundred of these were acquired in the preceding year. Total circulation for the year was 9,085 volumes (3,929 adult and 5,156 juvenile). Special programs offered by the library are summer reading programs, group study programs, and elementary school library orientation.

There is no county or regional library which serves Robeson County. It is one of two counties in North Carolina which are not served by county library systems.

The Red Springs library is thus entirely dependent upon local funds since no state or federal funds are allocated to local libraries when there is no county library system. Although the town has an unusually fine library building and collection of books for a small town, it still does not have the resources available that a county-wide system could provide. The State Library recommends a minimum population of 50,000 in order to provide economical library service. Thus, libraries are usually organized on a county basis.

Now that the people of Red Springs have a fine library building, they should seek to maintain it and increase both its financial support and its use. The State Library recommends remaining open 30 hours a week, with the hours arranged according to the needs of the community. If this is to be achieved, additional staff will be necessary.

The greatest benefit to the library could be achieved by the formation of a county library system. Robeson County is a large county with a population of approximately 100,000. This would support a viable county-wide library, adding state and federal funds to the necessary county funds raised through a special tax levy for the library system. Local libraries could then be part of the larger system with its larger administrative and financial resources.

RECREATION

People everywhere are faced with increasing amounts of time which may be used at their discretion. Leisure time has increased as work-days and work-weeks have been shortened and vacations have lengthened. Predictions are that leisure time will increase even more, enabling the average adult to spend more time doing what he wants to do. Even the housewife, once she has learned how to operate the controls of her new appliances, will have more and more time to devote to activities beyond her household duties. Children and teenagers will continue to have time to spend playing and just going "out" although they have many organized activities.

The leisure time problem has not always been a public concern, and governmental activities in the area of recreation are relatively new compared to other government services. Today, recreation has become an accepted and essential function of the local, state, and federal governments. Public recreation programs have a direct relationship to other community values including physical and mental health, development of individual character, crime prevention, community pride and morale, and community safety. Concerns of early recreation programs were to give children the fresh air, sunshine, and physical activity thought to be necessary for their proper development. Although this is still a necessary function, recreation programs have grown in scope to include adult recreation programs and, more significantly, programs beyond the traditional physical activities.

Standards for recreational facilities and their areas have been developed by various agencies over time. These standards were for the most part derived from existing programs and facilities and thus were standards of feasibility rather than need. Total areas or gross acreages devoted to recreation do not reflect the adequacy

of the facilities for the community's program. Neither do they indicate whether or not the existing program meets the community's requirements. Recreation needs are met as facilities of size, location, and development are available for a suitable recreation program.

The planning process (Community Facilities Plan, Land Development Plan, etc.) is primarily concerned with space and locational requirements of the recreation program, but these requirements are derived from programs which are considered necessary to meet the recreational needs of the community.

Local public parks and recreation programs are only part of the leisure time resources available to people in a community. There are usually other commercial facilities, county and state parks, and national parks and recreation facilities to meet the needs for out of town trips and vacations. Local communities logically limit their programs to satisfying short time adult leisure demands through afternoon and evening programs and the recreational needs of children and teenagers.

EXISTING RECREATION RESOURCES

The total recreation resources of a community include the public parks and recreation program, school facilities and programs, industrial recreation programs, commercial entertainment and recreation, private clubs, and various church sponsored activities.

Municipal. The Town of Red Springs has one area of 0.1 acre which is classified as a municipal park. The area could be developed as a play area for small children. The area has not been developed for park or recreation purposes and is not now being used.

Schools. The Red Springs School and the Peterson School have large sites which have been partially developed for school physical education and recreation needs. The use of school facilities for public recreation is determined by the demand for the facilities by the educational program. The Recreation Commission has conducted summer playground programs at the Peterson School in the past. This may not be possible in the future if summer education programs are started at the school. A lighted ball field for general recreation purposes is being developed at the Peterson School by the Recreation Commission in cooperation with the municipal utility department.

Public Gardens. The site of the former railroad station has been landscaped by the Red Springs Garden Club. This attractive garden is named the Vardell Rose Garden in honor of Dr. Charles Graves Vardell, founder of Flora Macdonald College.

The Flora Macdonald Azalea Gardens on the Vardell Hall grounds were planned and developed by Dr. Vardell. These extensive gardens are open to the public.

Industrial. Recreation facilities were included as an essential feature of the Midstate Mill development. About 13½ acres owned by the mill are devoted to recreation and are made available for public recreation programs. The mill recreation facilities include Robbins Park, a well developed ball field, and a playground. The playground has a tennis court, basketball court, playfields, and playground

equipment. Robbins Park is well maintained but the playground facilities require extensive maintenance. In 1966, Deering-Millikin donated \$5,000 to the Recreation Commission and \$5,000 to Baseball for Boys, Inc. This money is being used for repairs to Robbins Park and improvements at Peterson School.

Private. The Veterans of Foreign Wars have a clubhouse and swimming pool located north of the corporate limits on N. C. Highway 211. The pool is used by club members. The Recreation Commission also uses the pool for public swimming instruction and recreational swimming programs.

The American Legion Hall is available for private functions. At one time the P.T.A. sponsored a teen recreation program in the American Legion Hall. This program was discontinued due to decreasing interest and increasing problems.

Commercial. Commercial recreation facilities for Red Springs include a movie theater and a riding stable.

Other. Various churches and small clubs carry on programs for their members. Churches also make their facilities available for other groups such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN RED SPRINGS

FACILITY	TOTAL AREA IN ACRES	IMPROVEMENTS	COMMENTS
Red Springs School	31.0	Playground and playfields.	About 10 acres is available for recreational use but general recreation programs are limited by school requirements.
Peterson School	32.0	Playground, playfield, and lighted ball field.	About 15 acres is available for recreational use but general recreation programs are limited by school requirements.
Robbins Park	11.2	Lighted ball field with grandstand.	Privately owned and made available at nominal cost.
Mill playground	2.6	Playground, playfields, paved play court, and tennis courts.	Privately owned and made available at nominal cost.
Municipal park	0.1	Unimproved.	
Vardell Rose Garden	0.1	Landscaped garden.	A small privately owned area landscaped by the garden club.
Flora Macdonald Gardens	9.0	Landscaped garden.	A 9 acre tract of the Vardell Hall grounds is landscaped and maintained as a public garden by the school.

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Red Springs Recreation Commission

Public recreation programs in Red Springs are administered by the Red Springs Recreation Commission. The Commission is a seven member board organized under the provisions of the state recreation legislation. The Recreation Commission has carried on an active program since the late 1940's. Its programs are financially supported through appropriations from the utilities fund, the Amerotron (Deering-Millikin) Employees Recreation Fund, and other private contributions. Fees for some activities also help to defray the cost of those recreation programs.

The Recreation Commission employs a staff during the summer months to supervise recreation programs at Peterson School and the mill playground. Swimming instruction and recreational swimming at the VFW pool are supervised by an instructor-lifeguard provided by the commission. An adult softball league is also a part of the program. A group of Neighborhood Youth Corps workers is making improvements in the Red Springs recreation facilities. The Recreation Commission is providing the necessary supervision and material. Improvements are scheduled at the mill playground, Robbins Park, Peterson playground, Red Springs School playground, and the municipal park. The Neighborhood Youth Corps workers will also aid in the maintenance of the recreation facilities during the summer.

Baseball for Boys, Inc.

The major recreational activities in Red Springs are baseball and softball. A nonprofit corporation, Baseball for Boys, Inc., sponsors baseball for boys in the

area. About 150 boys through the age of 18 play on the Little League, Pony League, and Senior League teams. The annual budget averages between \$2,500 and \$3,000. Most of this comes from private donations although about \$800 is appropriated from the utility fund.

The mill leases its recreation facilities to Baseball for Boys and also donates enough to provide insurance coverage and some maintenance. Baseball for Boys completed a major improvements project at the ball park in 1966 at a cost of \$6,000. Bleachers costing about \$2,000 were also added by Red Springs School. The ball park is well developed with a grandstand, bleachers, fences, and night lighting. It is well maintained because of the town's interest in baseball and the organizational support of Baseball for Boys.

RECREATION REQUIREMENTS

Recreation space requirements for a small community can best be expressed in terms of the actual facilities necessary for the desired recreation program. Area requirements can then be determined to serve these facilities. Per capita space standards have little or no meaning for communities under 10,000 and, in any case, the actual improvements and their use is more important than an unspecified space.

Recommended facilities for a general recreation program for a small community include the following:

Recreation building. A recreation program should have at least one building or area which it can call its own. The building would be primarily a multi-purpose room with an office, storage area, kitchen, restrooms, and utility

room. The large multi-purpose room is the major consideration and the other areas can be added to fit the requirements of the local program. The building would serve as the headquarters of the total recreation program as well as serving as a community center for general meetings, adult and teen recreation programs, dances, and other community activities.

Public swimming pool. Every community should have a swimming pool (or other swimming facility) open to the general public for swimming instruction and recreational swimming. The pool should be adequate in size to permit the usual swimming events and have the necessary related facilities.

Tennis courts. At least two tennis courts in the same location are highly desirable. Tennis courts are often multi-purpose paved areas but it is preferable if they can be devoted to the single purpose of playing tennis.

Multi-purpose courts. Concrete or asphalt courts can be used for many activities including basketball, volleyball, outdoor dances and exhibits, and various organized childrens games. Such courts are highly desirable in that they can be used year round for various sports without supervision or organization.

Playfields. Large grassed multi-purpose areas are necessary for boys' sports and other unorganized play. These may be adjacent to schools to provide additional space for school playground.

Playgrounds. Small areas with play equipment for small children are desirable within a short walking distance of every home. School playgrounds usually fill this requirement since elementary schools are located within walking distance of all pupils of an urban area. In less densely

developed residential areas, space is usually available for each family to have some backyard play space. These backyards are often equipped with individual swing sets and other play equipment by individual owners.

Natural parks. Depending on the suitability of the local area, each community should have an area for picnicking in a natural setting with the necessary facilities such as tables, shelter, fireplaces, restrooms, and drinking water. Trails for hiking, nature study, and riding are also desirable. More extensive trails may be developed along stream rights-of-way and private property if suitable agreements are worked out.

Ball park. The interests of Red Springs residents demand the maintenance of a first-class ball park for their baseball and softball program. This should be available to all residents of the community.

RECOMMENDED PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES FOR RED SPRINGS

TYPE FACILITY	LOCATION	REQUIRED AREA	REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS
Recreation Center	Central	0.5 + acre	Recreation center building, parking area.
Swimming pool	Central	0.5 + acre	Pool, wading pool, bath house, parking area.
Tennis courts	Westside Heights	Existing	Repair and maintenance of existing courts.
Paved play courts	Westside Heights	Existing	Repair and maintenance of existing court.
	Peterson School	Existing	Maintenance of existing court.
	Red Springs School Eastern section	Existing 0.1 acre	Maintenance of existing court. Concrete or asphalt court with basketball goals and posts for volleyball nets.
Play fields	Westside Heights	Existing	Maintenance of existing fields.
	Peterson School	Existing	Maintenance of existing fields.
	Red Springs School	Existing	Maintenance of existing fields.
	Eastern section	0.5 acre	Level, grassed field; baseball backstop.
Playgrounds	Westside Heights	Existing	Repair and maintenance of existing equipment.
	Peterson School	Existing	Maintenance of existing equipment.
	Red Springs School	Existing	Maintenance of existing equipment.
	Municipal park	Existing	Play equipment for small children.
	Southeast section	0.1 acre	Protected area with play equipment for small children.
Ball park	Westside Heights	Existing	Maintenance of existing facilities and development of parking areas.
Natural park	Little Raft Swamp	15 + acres	Development of natural area for picnics and hiking, parking area.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Recreation resources in Red Springs are limited and its recreation programs are more limited by residents' lack of financial support, leadership, and interest. The excellent baseball and softball programs are a source of community pride but the recreation program should be more broadly based. An attempt should be made to develop a wider year-round recreation program and facilities for this expanded program. Because of the size of Red Springs, the recreation program will remain somewhat limited, but a county-wide program could add to the local program.

Program: The present program is limited to the traditional organized summer sports and playground activities. Other important recreational activities which should become a part of the program are crafts, music, art, and other teen and adult activities. The current need is for more winter recreation but necessary facilities are limited or nonexistent. Some activities require only a meeting room and if activities are organized, space could be made available in churches, schools, and other public or private buildings until the community has its own recreation building.

Full-time recreation directors and year-round programs are not usually feasible for communities with less than 7,500 people. It is often better for small communities to develop part-time winter programs with part-time paid direction and a full-time summer program when more facilities are available and a wider range of activities is possible. Red Springs should begin with a part-time, year-long program.

Facilities: The Town of Red Springs is entirely dependent upon the cooperation and goodwill of other agencies and private business for the present recreation program.

The town has no facilities which it directly controls and operates for recreation. An effort should be made to acquire areas and develop the facilities recommended for the community. Since most facilities would serve the entire community, they should be centrally located. Location is especially important when the facility is used by small children who must walk.

Specialized facilities are often prohibitive in cost for small communities; and cooperation in the provision, use, and maintenance is necessary if some facilities are to be available at all. However, if the town is to make any major financial investment, it should directly have control over the facility. Cooperation in the use of facilities is desirable if the primary use is not adversely affected.

Robbins Park and the mill playground are the major recreation facilities other than the schools. The mill playground could adequately serve the mill area residents and Robbins Park serves the entire community. If the town is to make improvements in the mill playground and ball park, it should have more direct control over them. More centrally located facilities are needed for the residents of the eastern part of the town.

Picnic and natural areas should be developed somewhere in or near Red Springs. Areas along Little Raft Swamp might be suitable for this purpose. The Flora Macdonald Gardens are an example of what can be done to an area that was probably an unattractive swamp. Land now owned by the town at the site of the sewage treatment plant might be suitable if the refuse disposal dump were operated as a sanitary land fill.

Purchase of a site for the recreation center should receive first priority. The site should be adequate for the recreation building, a swimming pool, and some outdoor recreation areas. Once a site is purchased, the facilities can then be planned and developed as funds are made available.

STATE LIBRARY OF NORTH CAROLINA



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